

milestone, and she is the first woman to serve full-time as a federal judge in Cape Girardeau.

In addition to serving as an impartial judge in our court system, Abbie also finds time to serve the community in other ways. She has participated and led several different councils that aim to inspire and support local kids.

For her work in seeking justice and practicing law in an admirable and ethical way, I applaud Abbie for her success and the bright future that still lies ahead. It is my pleasure to recognize her efforts and accomplishments before the House of Representatives.

IN TRIBUTE TO MCPO. EDWIN F. (BUD) ATKINS (RET.) ON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE CONNECTICUT VETERANS HALL OF FAME

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent whose lifelong service in our nation's military is truly breathtaking. Our men and women in uniform are regularly called upon to sacrifice large spans of time away from family, usually with limited contact and in dangerous conditions. In few jobs within the military is that truer than for our submariners, who can spend months at a time without even seeing the light of day, yet Master Chief Petty Officer Edwin F. (Bud) Atkins of Oakdale, Connecticut has partaken in a total of twenty patrols, spending time attached to nine different submarines.

Bud first enlisted, not as a sailor, but as a soldier in his native Wisconsin National Guard in 1949. He then joined the Navy in February, 1954 and attended Basic Submarine School before reporting to the USS *Wahoo* (SS 565). After this first assignment, he briefly left the active service and joined the Naval Reserve, before returning to active duty. He then reported to the USS *Congor* (SS 477) followed by the USS *Corsair* (SS 435) to take part in the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway in 1959.

Upon completion of that tour, he took part in thirteen strategic patrols during which he became a "plankholder," a member of the first crew aboard a commissioned naval vessel, on the USS *Sculpin* (SSN590), USS *Daniel Webster* (SSBN 626) and the USS *Francis Scott Key* (SSBN 657). In 1969, he returned to staff duty at the submarine base in Groton, Connecticut to become the leading instructor in Advanced Nuclear Weapons, educating a new generation of submariners in the details of their unique craft.

In June of 1973, Bud reported to the USS *Kamehameha* (SSBN 642) to lead his first patrol as Chief of the Boat, the highest ranking enlisted personnel on a submarine. He then led six more over ten years assigned to the submarine's Gold crew. Upon completing his final patrol with the *Kamehameha*, Bud returned to Groton as Staff Command Master Chief for Submarine Group Two.

Already with more than twenty-five years in the Navy, Bud's desire to serve never died. In continuing his naval career, Bud reported to precommissioning units for both the USS *Michigan* and USS *Alabama* (SSBN 731),

serving as Chief of the Boat for both. Following commissioning of the *Alabama*, Bud served as the Group Command Master Chief for Submarine Group Nine, one of the Navy's highest enlisted positions, before retiring in March 1988 after forty years of service.

A life member of the U.S. Submarine Veterans, a Holland Club Member, and former Base Vice Commander of the Groton Base U.S. Submarine Veterans, Inc. Master Chief Atkins' service still hasn't fully ended. Not only is he an active member of the Connecticut veterans community, he also still serves as a Captain in the Second Company of the Governor's Foot Guard, a unit that, while largely ceremonial, is still officially part of the Connecticut military.

While Bud's service is incredible in both its length and its profound impact on numerous ships of the U.S. submarine fleet, the sacrifice of his family must be recognized as well. He is married to the former Frances Somers of Amherst, Wisconsin, with whom he has two children. I wish Bud the best in his induction into the Connecticut Veteran's Hall of Fame this week.

HONORING THE VISITING NURSES ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH CENTRAL CONNECTICUT ON THE CELEBRATION OF THEIR 110TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to join the many family, friends, and community leaders who have gathered to celebrate the 110th Anniversary of the Visiting Nurses Association of South Central Connecticut—a remarkable milestone for this tremendous organization.

Founded in 1904, the VNA-SCC began as a non-profit, community-based agency dedicated to providing New Haven's medically underserved with quality homecare. More than a century later, they have grown in many ways, but their mission remains unchanged. With programs and services from maternal child health to home health aides, advanced illness management to behavioral health, and private duty care to skilled nursing services, the VNA-SCC provides services in forty-three communities throughout south central Connecticut.

For decades, the VNA-SCC was the only organization of its type serving Connecticut's second-largest city. The VNA/SCC, as it exists today—is the result of the 1989 merger of the original New Haven, Milford and (Naugatuck River) Valley VNAs. Over the course of more than a century, the VNA-SCC's role has evolved to meet the changing and varied needs of the patients in their care. Today, in addition to highly-skilled, hands-on nursing care, the organization offers a wide range of sophisticated treatments and therapies that are on the leading-edge of home health care technologies.

We are living in a time with a rapidly changing health care system. The VNA-SCC is on the front lines helping those most in need receive the care they need. Their dedicated staff and nurses are uniquely committed to their clients, their families, and providing quality

health care. They have touched the lives of millions, giving comfort and care to clients and their loved ones in their greatest times of need.

The VNA-SCC is a trusted and respected leader in health care and has become an invaluable member of our community. Today, as they celebrate their 110th Anniversary, I am proud to extend my deepest thanks and appreciation to President and CEO, John Quinn; Board Chair, Robert Motley; and all of those at the VNA-SCC for all of the good work that they do every day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I was absent on November 17, 2014 due to a flight delay and therefore missed roll call vote No. 520. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING NOLAN BRIGHT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nolan Bright. Nolan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 81, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Nolan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Nolan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Nolan has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Nolan Bright for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LINCOLN SCHOOL

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Lincoln School in Rockaway Borough, Morris County, New Jersey, as it celebrates its Centennial Anniversary.

For fully a century, this outstanding school has provided the countless number of students who have passed through its doors with a superior education that has prepared them for the rest of their educational pursuits and for the rest of their lives.

When the Lincoln School welcomed its first students back in 1914, there were still people

in Rockaway Borough, and throughout New Jersey and the nation, who could remember the days when Abraham Lincoln served as President of the United States.

The decision to name this school in Lincoln's honor reflected the great esteem in which people held the memory of our 16th President. But it also is a tribute to the example a young Abraham Lincoln provided to students about the value of education. Who among us does not recall the stories of Lincoln stretched out in front of a fire, using the light of that fire to read his school books?

Fortunately for today's students at the Lincoln School, they don't have to rely on firelight to illuminate their lessons. They have the advantages provided by our modern amenities. But, what's more important, they have the benefit of being taught by talented and dedicated teachers and staff who give so much to meet the needs of their students. And they have the support of parents and of a community that value education and are willing to invest in the future by investing in their children's education.

As the Lincoln School begins its second century it is preparing its students to succeed and thrive in America's third century. As the future president said in his very first political announcement, when, at the youthful age of 23, he ran for the Illinois state legislature, "Upon the subject of education . . . I can only say that I view it as the most important subject which we as a people can be engaged in."

That is certainly a sentiment the people of Rockaway Borough shared 100 years ago when they built the Lincoln School, just as it remains their view today.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in saluting the Lincoln School on its centennial and in paying tribute to all of the administrators, teachers, and staff who have made it a citadel of learning, and also join me in honoring all of the students, parents, and community members, past and present, who have nurtured the growth and contributed to the success of the Lincoln School over the past 100 years.

RECOGNIZING THE HONOR FLIGHT OF SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO AND EL PASO, TEXAS

HON. BETO O'ROURKE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to recognize the Honor Flight of Southern New Mexico and El Paso, Texas, a distinguished Veterans Service Organization in my district.

The Honor Flight of Southern New Mexico and El Paso, Texas, is comprised of dedicated volunteers in our area who go above and beyond in serving veterans. The group develops new relationships and cultivates existing bonds among our veteran community, elected officials and government agencies; honors the memory of service members who died in service; and assists in fulfilling a lifelong goal of visiting our nation's capital. Honor Flight sends World War II and Korean veterans to Washington, D.C., to see their memorials at no cost to the veterans.

This year, the Honor Flight of Southern New Mexico and El Paso, Texas, will take off on

October 6 and return October 8, 2014. Sixty-five veterans will participate, most of them World War II veterans. The group will depart October 6 on two planes and will receive a memorable departure assisted by the Fort Bliss Quintet Band and the Red Cross ladies in vintage uniform. The group will also receive a Hero's Welcome Home along with an honor guard, families of participating veterans and a bagpipe and drum corps.

Honor Flight of Southern New Mexico was established in 2008 by business and community leaders who were devoted to honoring our Veterans. Honor Flight of Southern New Mexico added El Paso, Texas, in October 2013. This year will mark their seventh flight back to Washington, D.C., allowing Veterans the opportunity to see their memorial.

I thank the Honor Flight of Southern New Mexico and El Paso, Texas, for their commitment to honoring our veterans and for helping to strengthen the bonds among veterans in the El Paso community. I am glad that Veteran Service Organizations like these exist in our area and I thank them for their selfless service to honor many of those we call the "Greatest Generation."

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor and recognize the Honor Flight of Southern New Mexico and El Paso, Texas.

HONORING THE TOWN OF MILFORD, CONNECTICUT AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR 375TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to join the community of Milford, Connecticut as they mark the 375th Anniversary of the town's founding—a remarkable milestone for this wonderful shoreline community. The sixth oldest town in Connecticut, Milford is the home of 52,000 residents and proudly showcases its meticulously maintained "town green", the second longest in New England, as well as seventeen miles of Long Island Sound coastline which funnel into the Milford Harbor and wind to meet the Wepawaug River in the heart of town. It is a special community full of rich history and community spirit.

The area then known as "Wepawaug" was purchased from Ansantawae, chief sachem of the Paugusset Tribe on February 1, 1639. Settlers began arriving shortly thereafter and began to build the town known as Milford. Buried treasure is said to exist on a small island the Indians called "Poquahaug", just a mile off Silver Sands Beach. It is a recognized fact that Captain Kidd and other pirates sailed and hid along the Connecticut coast so it is no wonder that iron chests filled with "loot" are rumored to be buried on the land called Charles Island.

Fort Trumbull was built to provide protection in the late 1700s during the Revolutionary War and during the Civil War Milford was a stop on the Underground Railroad. Though agriculture was the community's economic backbone, shipbuilding, oystering, small industry and trade on the open seas from the harbor were

also part of the local economy. The early 1900's brought the leather industry along with the making of boots, hats and shoes. Milford was also famous for carriages, which were sold throughout the centuries.

After World War II, the population swelled as soldiers returned from the war and bought houses in the suburb of New Haven and Bridgeport called Milford. Industry also developed to support the war effort. Norden, Milford Rivet, U.S. Motors, and Edgcomb Steel were some of the familiar names of the time. Other industry followed most notably the consumer giants of Bic and Schick. Then the completion of I-95 in 1960, with its seven exits and entrances brought easy access. The Connecticut Post Shopping Center and other development followed rapidly. Today, Milford is home to more than 2,000 businesses of all types and sizes.

With citizens dedicated to preserving and celebrating their rich history, Milford is well-known for its annual community celebrations like the Memorial Day Parade and Oyster Festival. Multiple memorials in honor of those who have served in past conflicts parade down the grassway of the Town Green, a memorial bridge provides a stone passageway of the history of their ancestors, and the Milford Historical Society also plays an important role in the community, managing several historic properties including Wharf Lane, three early houses named for the old street which ran from the Town Dock, scene of Milford's commerce by water, to the Milford Green; the Eells-Stow House which is believed to be the oldest house in Milford; the Clark-Stockade or "Stockade House", the first house built outside the stockade or palisades which surrounded the town of Milford against Indians; and the Bryan-Downs House, originally built by Captain Jehiel Bryan and his son on the Post road between Milford and New Haven. Housed at the Bryan-Downs House is the Claude C. Coffin Indian collection which is a collection assembled by Milford native Claude C. Coffin, an archeologist of the 1920–1930 era which contains over 4,000 prehistoric Indian artifacts.

Over the course of its history, Milford has certainly reflected its motto "A Small City with a Big Heart!" It has been an honor for me to serve as their U.S. Representative these last twenty-four years and I am proud to have this opportunity to extend my heartfelt congratulations to every member of this special community as they celebrate their 375th Anniversary.

HONORING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD

HON. JASON T. SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 70th Anniversary of the First Assembly of God in Potosi, Missouri. In 1944 the first members of this church came together seeking to build a community of believers to worship and to serve others. The First Assembly of God is part of the large council of Assemblies of God which is celebrating their 100th year.

First Assembly works to reach out to the community of Potosi and beyond. Among their